

A By-the-Numbers Reminder of Republicans' Last Government Shutdown

Almost two years ago, House Republicans' manufactured crisis over funding the government resulted in a sixteen-day government shutdown. Here's a reminder of what those sixteen days of partisanship and uncertainty meant for Americans across the country:

\$24 billion: Amount the 16-day shutdown took out of the economy

\$4 billion: Tax refunds that were delayed

\$2 billion: Payroll cost or lost productivity of furloughed workers

6.6 million: Combined total of days that federal employees were furloughed for – At its peak, about 850,000 individuals per day were furloughed

2 million: Liters of U.S. products were left sitting at ports, unable to ship

1.2 million: IRS verification requests that could not be processed, potentially delaying approval of mortgages and other loans

120,000: Fewer private sector jobs created during the first two weeks of October 2013

20,000: Veterans' disability claims, per week, that were stalled

6,300: Children served by Head Start grantees that were forced to close their centers for up to nine days

1,400: Military service members that experienced delays in workshops that help them transition to civilian life and employment

700: Small business applications, amounting to \$140 million in loans, which were unable to be processed

500: Food and feed domestic inspections that were delayed

2: Weeks in cutbacks to flu season surveillance and monitoring that left local public health authorities without access to complete national flu season data

80%: Percentage of Americans who disapproved of the 2013 government shutdown. [Washington Post, [10/22/13](#)]

63%: Percentage of Americans who had an unfavorable view of the Republican Party following the shutdown. [Washington Post, [10/22/13](#)]

Unfortunately, it looks like House Republicans are gearing up for a shutdown sequel. Here's a second by-the-numbers look at how their current shutdown strategy is panning out:

71%: Percentage of Americans who say it is more important for Congress to approve a spending bill to keep the government open than it is to eliminate all federal funds for Planned Parenthood. [CNN/ORC Poll, [9/14/15](#)]

31: Number of House Republicans who signed a letter threatening to vote against any spending bill, including one to keep the government open, unless Planned Parenthood is defunded. [[Heritage Action](#)]

7: Legislative days left to fund the government before the end of the fiscal year

[Unless otherwise noted, all information comes from OMB's November 2013 [report](#).]

Office of Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer, 09/16/15